

THE
**FUTURE
OF
AMERICA'S
NATIONAL
PARKS**

First Annual
Centennial Strategy for

Roger Williams National Memorial

August 2007

CENTENNIAL INITIATIVE



Site: ROWI

Year: 2007

Vision Statement

Roger Williams National Memorial is located in downtown Providence, Rhode Island and celebrates Williams contributions to our national structure of freedom of religious conscience. Because of Williams staunch dedication to the creation of community where individual conscience was celebrated, the Rhode Island Charter was crafted to create a haven for people distressed of conscience. This Charter was replicated in many of the early colonies and eventually became a major influence on the Bill of Rights.

The Journey To Freedom Lecture series is a three-year series that will utilize national historic and contemporary scholars to revive these important national discussions and keep them alive in the American conscience. The first year of the series will explore the history of our religious freedom's roots. The second will identify the paths of our roots and how they have influenced our national culture. The third year will be an overview of the state of this freedom and its future. The third year will culminate with a major forum composed of national scholars and the development of a report. The series is being co-produced by the Touro Synagogue Foundation and the Roger Williams National Memorial. Touro Synagogue is the oldest continuing operating synagogue in the country and is affiliated with the NPS as a National Historic Landmark.

The project meets the vision goals for stewardship, education and professional excellence as identified in the centennial initiative program issued by the NPS.

This funding will provide for three years of lectures organized by site partners around these important issues.

Park/ Superintendent/ Program Manager

Halford Welch, Site Manager

Site: ROWI

STEWARDSHIP

☒ **Assure that no compelling chapter in the American heritage experience remains untold and that strategically important landscapes are acquired, as authorized by Congress.**

☒ **Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)**

Roger Williams National Memorial is a National Park dedicated to the remembrance of our american religious freedoms. This lecture series will engage a number of national scholars in this discussion and continue this important issue in our national conscience.

☒ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: ROWI

STEWARDSHIP

☒ **Serve as the Preeminent resource laboratory by applying excellence in science and scholarship to understand and respond to environmental changes.**

☒ **Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)**

Expand our national discussion of our religious freedoms.

☒ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: ROWI

EDUCATION

☒ **Cooperate with educators to provide curriculum materials, high-quality programs, and park-based and online learning.**

☒ **Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)**

The Journey to Freedom series will provide opportunities for scholars, children and all others to discuss the history of and the present state of our national religious freedoms.

☐ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: ROWI

EDUCATION

☒ Introduce young people and their families to national parks by using exciting media and technology.

☒ Increase the number of web hits through the introduction of advanced, interactive features that attract young people to national parks.

The Journey to Freedom lecture series will be promoted both through the web and other media to assure that the message of the series reaches local, state, regional and national audiences.

☒ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: ROWI

EDUCATION

☒ Promote life-long learning to connect generations through park experiences.

☒ Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

The Journey To Freedom Lecture Series will be promoted through both the Roger Williams National Memorial's classroom program (ongoing) and the Touro Synagogue Education Foundation's ongoing programs.

☒ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: ROWI

EDUCATION

☒ Impart to every American a sense of their citizen ownership of their national parks.

☒ Increase visitors' satisfaction, understanding, and appreciation of the parks they visit.

The Journey To Freedom will elevate this national discussion of our religious freedoms at two major national historic sites which were key places and beginnings of these important national cultural beginnings.

☒ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: ROWI

PROFESSIONALISM

☒ Model what it means to work in partnership.

☒ Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

The Roger Williams National Memorial and the Touro Synagogue both have national significance in the areas of our national historic freedom. Partnerships will be developed not only with Touro but with other organizations around the areas of space for the lectures, provision of speakers and other project related areas.

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